

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CREAL SPRINGS SCHOOL IN CREAL SPRINGS, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Creal Springs School, in Creal Springs, Illinois, on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.

Creal Springs was first named Eau Mineral by the French settlers in Southern Illinois who were drawn to the natural springs found in the area. As the town grew, its name was changed to Sulphur Springs and later, Creal Springs, after one of the prominent landowners.

As legend of the curative powers of the sulphur spring waters spread, Creal Springs developed into a thriving resort destination in the late 19th Century.

As the community grew, schools were developed. The Creal Springs Seminary was chartered in 1884 as a college and conservatory of music and was the first college in Williamson County. In 1912–1913, the Creal Springs school building was constructed to provide educational facilities for students from kindergarten to 11th grade.

Initially, there were two grades per classroom on the building's main level while the upper grades were located on the upper level. The upper level also contained an auditorium, complete with a stage and changing areas. The basement contained two merry-go-rounds as well as a wood shop.

As the community and the needs of the school evolved, there would be a number of changes. A new gymnasium was added in 1939 and a new addition for grades K–1 was constructed in 1954. Creal Springs School would become part of Marion Community Unit School District #2 in 1953 and, in the 1970's, community pressure would prevail in keeping the school as grades K through 8.

Through the years, Creal Springs School has received many awards, recognizing its excellence in education. In 1939 it was placed on a list of "Recognized Elementary Schools in Williamson County" and the high school was rated the "Highest 3 year High School of Williamson County." In more recent years the school received the Golden Spike Award and the Academic Improvement Award from the Illinois State Board of Education and, most recently, Creal Springs School won the 2011 Disney's Planet Challenge grand prize for middle schools.

After 100 years of educating the youth of Creal Springs, a new school building has been built and will be ready to welcome the students for the 2012–2013 school year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the administration, faculty, staff and students of Creal Springs School as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary.

HONORING THE THREE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE 26-YEAR-LONG CIVIL WAR IN SRI LANKA

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the three year anniversary of the end of the 26-year-long civil war in Sri Lanka.

Although this war ended three years ago, and a United Nations panel of experts found evidence of war crimes and the Government-established Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission called for an inquiry into the events surrounding February 21, 2002 to May 19, 2009, a credible plan of action has yet to be determined.

Evidence of child soldiers, the killing of captives and combatants seeking to surrender, large-scale shelling of "No Fire Zones," and the rape and torture of civilians fleeing the conflict zone are extremely serious. Serious crimes such as these—committed against civilians on such a large scale during war—must be investigated and those responsible held accountable. Accountability is important for the benefit of the victims and their families—for the trust necessary for reconciliation in Sri Lanka to be established and for the entire structure of the rules of war on which our soldiers and all innocent civilians depend.

A resolution recently adopted in March by the United Nations Human Rights Commission "calls upon the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the constructive recommendations made in the report of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission and to take all necessary additional steps to fulfill its relevant legal obligations and commitment to initiate credible and independent actions to ensure justice, equity, accountability and reconciliation for all Sri Lankans." Furthermore the UNHRC Resolution "requests the Government of Sri Lanka to present, as expeditiously as possible, a comprehensive action plan detailing the steps that the Government has taken and will take to implement the recommendations made in the Commission's report, and also to address alleged violations of international law."

Mr. Speaker, the government of Sri Lanka needs to take concrete action that brings accountability and reconciliation and puts forth an implementation plan if the people of Sri Lanka are to move forward.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me and co-sponsor House Resolution 177 commending the international community in pressuring the government of Sri Lanka to acknowledge their crimes against humanity and to move forward with a reconciliation process.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, on May 17th, I was unable to vote on rollcall 263, to H.R. 4310, the National Defense Authorization Act of FY13. This was Representative ROHR-

ABACHER's amendment, prohibiting the availability of funds for assistance to Pakistan in Fiscal Year 2013. I wish to have the RECORD show I would have opposed this amendment.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Chair I rise in support of amendment No. 46 to H.R. 4310 "National Defense Authorization Act," NDAA, offered by Ranking Member ADAM SMITH and Rep. JUSTIN AMASH. It would strike section 1022 of the FY2012 NDAA and amends Section 1021 of same Act to eliminate indefinite military detention of any person detained under AUMF authority in U.S., territories or possessions by providing immediate transfer to trial and proceedings by a court established under Article III of the Constitution of the United States or by an appropriate State court.

This amendment would bar any President or any other government official from ordering the military to put anyone in the United States, or its territories or possessions, into indefinite detention without charge or trial, or to put anyone in the United States on trial before a military commission.

Federal criminal courts are open, operating, experienced, and secure—and are the appropriate venue for any proceedings here in the United States itself.

The Bill of Rights applies to all persons within the United States and its territories, this amendment is consistent with 232 years of constitutional precedent as it does not pick and choose between which persons on located on U.S. soil will receive constitutional protections.

Further, the amendment bars the transfer of anyone in the United States to the military for indefinite detention without charge or trial. This provision is consistent with the Posse Comitatus Act, and would provide an additional protection against any misuse of civilian law enforcement as a way to put suspects into military detention without charge or trial.

It is fully consistent with the Constitution, with the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878, and with the Non-Detention Act of 1971. It will reinforce the protections that most Americans assume apply—and do apply—within the United States.

Since 2001, this executive power has only been utilized 3 times which makes it clear that it is not necessary to protect our national security; however, creates a gap in our civil liberties.

This amendment would repeal section 1022 of last year's NDAA. Section 1022 requires the military to put some civilian suspects into military detention.

The current Administration has waived application of section 1022 to many groups of potential suspects, it has not foreclosed the possibility of section 1022 being applied to all categories of civilians, including even within the United States itself. To ensure this provision will not be used against those living in the United States under section 1022 of last year's NDAA is to repeal it.

Our military is designed to fight our battles overseas and to protect our borders they are not designed to enforce domestic laws.

The military has not been required to enforce domestic laws since the Civil War. We have a Department of Justice, State and Federal Prosecutors, and local law enforcement that have been successful for hundreds of years.

The amendment reaffirms the importance and availability of due process protections for all persons within the United States. It prohibits the NDAA detention provisions from providing any authority for the military to detain persons under any claim of authority under the NDAA or the Authorization for Use of Military Force of 2001.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting civil liberties and upholding the constitution by supporting this amendment.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. LUKE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to congratulate Saint Luke United Lutheran Church on its 100th anniversary. In honor of this momentous milestone, a celebratory reception will be held on May 19, 2012, at The Senior Center in Michigan City, Indiana. For 100 years, Saint Luke United Lutheran Church has been committed to providing spiritual guidance as well as charitable contributions to numerous organizations and individuals.

In 1912, Saint Luke English Lutheran Church was founded in Michigan City, Indiana, under Reverend Dobberstein. At the time, the people living in the area saw the need for an English-speaking Lutheran Church, so Saint Luke's began holding services at the local YMCA, as well as in one of the Sunday school classrooms at Saint Paul's Church. In 1915, the congregation, consisting of twenty families, witnessed the construction of their first church building. Later, in 1969, to accommodate the needs of the growing congregation, the current church building was erected on Coolspring Avenue in Michigan City. In 2002, Lutheran Church of the Dunes joined parishes with Saint Luke, and the church became the Saint Luke United Lutheran Church. Today, the church has an impressive membership of 112 families.

Saint Luke United Lutheran Church, under the leadership of Reverend John Mikenas, provides much support to charity organizations and has built an outstanding community outreach program. The congregation has been dedicated to serving those in need and has focused its charitable efforts in many ways including: assisting soup kitchens throughout the

Michigan City area, organizing a food and warm clothing drive for the Salvation Army, and supporting the men's homeless shelter in Michigan City. Saint Luke's has also created a program for families in need of assistance with utility and medical bills, as well as another program that provides homemade soup and fruit baskets to the homebound. In addition, Saint Luke's is dedicated to the youth of the community and runs a vacation bible school during the summer months. The Saint Luke Youth Group also participates in mission trips and assists the elderly in the community.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the congregation at Saint Luke United Lutheran Church for its exceptional community service ministry and in congratulating the parish on its 100th anniversary. The great work of this truly admirable congregation continues to touch the lives of countless individuals, and for their selfless service, the leadership and members at Saint Luke's are worthy of the highest praise.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Chair, last year, Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2012 that granted unprecedented powers to the president, including ability to indefinitely detain without trial American citizens suspected of terrorism. I strongly opposed this provision and voted against passage of the entire Act.

On December 15, 2011, after the bill had passed, I spoke on the House floor condemning these dangerous and unnecessary measures. I was concerned that our civil liberties would erode if we leave the interpretation of the law to the commander-in-chief. As we continue our counter-terrorism efforts at home and abroad, we are leaving enormous leeway to the current president, the next president, and the president after that to gather intelligence and detain individuals without charge or trial.

Today, government surveillance is more intrusive than ever. Congress, which once seemed poised to shut Guantanamo Bay, has instead passed bipartisan law after law ensuring its indefinite operations. In my district, the Seattle Police Department recently acquired surveillance drones, but no policies have yet been drafted to guide their use. It is not clear whether these drones will be used only to collect evidence on specific crimes or become an invasive, all-encompassing surveillance operation without proper oversight.

This week, we're voting on the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2013, and the House had an opportunity to challenge some of these far-reaching provisions in current law.

Earlier this morning, I voted for the Smith-Amash amendment to the FY13 NDAA, which would strike Section 1022 of the FY12 NDAA and amend Section 1021 to eliminate indefinite military detention of those detained in the United States. In short, this amendment would explicitly ban any president or government official from ordering the military to place anyone in the country into indefinite detention without charge or trial. It also reaffirms due process protections for all persons within the United States.

I am deeply disappointed that this bipartisan amendment did not get enough votes to be adopted into the FY13 NDAA.

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LOWELL MILLER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Lowell Miller of Hope, Ind. Mr. Miller was the owner of Hope Hardwoods Inc. and a partner in Hope Warehouse. He passed away on March 14, 2012, following a tragic logging accident.

He was a former president of the Indiana Forestry Council and past board member of the Indiana Hardwood Lumberman's Association (IHLA). Mr. Miller earned the prestigious Legacy Award from the IHLA.

Mr. Miller was an active member of the St. Louis Crossing Baptist Church. He also was dedicated to his community, serving as treasurer of the Hope Lions Club, president of the Hope Town Council, and a member of Hope Economic Development Board. He was a founding donor of the Hawcreek-Flat Rock Area Endowment Fund.

He loved spending time with his family and friends, and he leaves behind a wonderful wife, Kim, loving children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He enjoyed camping and four-wheeling, reading history books, and riding his motorcycle.

Mr. Lowell Miller's involvement in the Hope community and his generosity will not be forgotten. I offer my most sincere condolences to his wife and family as they mourn his passing.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND DEDICATION OF MS. CYNTHIA BERRY OF LONG BEACH, CALI- FORNIA

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service and dedication of one of my own constituents, Ms. Cynthia Berry. For almost five years now Ms. Berry has been an essential part of the Long Beach foster care program.

Ms. Berry's story is simple but inspiring. She graduated from college and took in her first foster children in her early 20's, ready to open her heart and home to try and give those less fortunate the warm and happy childhood she had experienced. When she went on to nursing school it was too time consuming to give